

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments hereinabove, reconsideration of the Office Action mailed on July 6, 2004 and allowance of the application.

As an initial note, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the accompanying Request to Correct Inventorship (and accompanying Statements, etc.)

Applicants acknowledge the admission that claims 17-26 represent allowable subject matter.

The rejection requested resubmission of the form PTO-1449 that was previously submitted. Applicants herewith include the form.

Claim 1 is objected to as lacking clarity.

Applicants have herein cancelled claim 1 without waiver or prejudice against refilling thus obviating the rejection.

Claims 27-34 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a method of treating a neuropathy in a patient suffering therefrom, does not reasonably provide enablement for a method of treating in general a patient suffering from neuropathy. The rejection suggests amending claim 27 to read, in part, ---A method for treating neuropathy in a patient suffering therefrom which comprises...---

Applicants have herein amended claim 27 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion thus obviating the rejection for claim 27 (and accordingly the dependent claims thereof).

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Laties (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0119974) who teaches a method for treating diabetic optic neuropathy which comprises the administration of a cGMP phosphodiesterase type V inhibitor which may be sildenafil.

Applicants have herein cancelled claim 1 without waiver or prejudice against refilling thus obviating the rejection.

Applicants enclose herewith a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Please charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1445. Two copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

12/14/2004



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